

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 79

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third st., corner 5th av.—
JULIUS CÆSAR.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—
THE VETERAN.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and
Houston sts.—LA BELLE SAVOIE.WOODS' MUSIUM, Broadway, corner 39th st.—Perform-
ances at 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock.ST. JAMES' THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broad-
way.—NATHAN.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—BUFFALO BILL—CAYO,
THE WHITE SLAVE.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—
THE NEW DEAMA OF DIONCE.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BALLET FAN-
TOMIE OF HUMPTY DUMPTY.LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 79 Broadway.—WITCHES
OF NEW YORK.STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—GRAND CON-
CERT.MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—
FERNANDE.THEATRE OMNIQUE, 64 Broadway.—COLORED VOCAL-
ISTS, NEGRO ACTS, &c.—NEW YORK MECHANICS.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broad-
way.—NEGRO ACTS—BULLDOG, BALLY, &c.TONY PASTORS' OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—
NEGRO ENTERTAINMENT, BULLDOG, &c. Matinee at 2.BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 221 st., between 5th
and 6th av.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third av.—
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, Matinee at 2.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 55 Broadway.—
THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.PAVILION, No. 225 Broadway.—THE VIENNA LADY OR-
CHESTRA.NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—JOCKEY
IN THE RING, ACROBATS, &c.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 515 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, March 12, 1872.

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It is stated that some five or six certified
checks of the deposed President of the Erie
road are in the pockets of legislators. If this
is so the sooner they are returned to the
treasury the better.

THE FATE OF WAR IN MEXICO, as else-
where, is exceedingly flimsy and fluctuating.
Our special despatch this morning gives in a
non-committal manner a report of the recon-
quest of Zacatecas by the government troops,
and with still greater reserve a rumor of the
crushing defeat of the revolutionists under
Treviño. If this report or rumor be based on
fact a strong tide of success has set in for
Juarez, and as it never rains but it pours, so
in the case of the revolutionists reverses have
lately followed so fast upon one another that
their prospects are getting rather cloudy.
But then who can foretell what the next day
may bring forth in Mexico?

NOW THAT THE BOOKS and vouchers of the
Erie Ring are in the possession of General Dix
and his associates, the Attorney General of
the State will find ample ammunition for a
bombardment of the citadel of corruption.
Will he order his artillery to the front and
commence the attack at once?

BROOKLYN AHEAD.—Brooklyn, in propo-
tion to its population, beats any of all the
other cities on the Continent in the number of
its churches and illicit whiskey distilleries,
and now, from its reform Committee of
Seventy-five, we find that Brooklyn is ahead
in all the acts and tricks of fraudulent elec-
tions. But what a strange mixture of premi-
ums!

AN OLD JOKE IN A NEW PLACE.—When
the new President of Erie was American Min-
ister to the Tuilleries Napoleon said to Rouher,
"He was too much for me." "How is that?"
queried the courtier. "It did him." We
think now it is ten to one Dix will be too
much for Gould. Both he and Napoleon have
had their Sedan.

IT IS SAID that Gould relies on some Judge
to grant him an injunction against the new
Board of Directors of the Erie road. The
Judge who did so would be a bad Judge of his
day.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.—The British
people who assembled in mass meeting in
Hyde Park on Sunday burned a copy of Prem-
ier Gladstone's Parks Regulation bill, under
the provisions of which the rough-handed
democracy are excluded from recreation in
their own domain. Thus did Martin Luther
burn the copy of the Pope's bull which excom-
municated him from the pale of the Church.
A tremendous revolution in the way of reform
ensued from the completion of the last-named
act, and so the charter of human liberty may
be further revised and extended in the light
which has just shone forth from Hyde Park.

The Annihilation of the Erie Ring—The
Work That Remains To Be Done.

Another startling scene has been enacted in
the sensational drama of Erie; another bat-
tle has been fought in the war of reform, and
another victory gained over the forces of cor-
ruption. The men who have so long held
lawless possession of the Erie Railroad, squan-
dering its income, confiscating its property
and defying its stockholders, have been
stripped of their power and driven from their
stronghold by a successful revolution in their
own body. The story is graphically told in
the HERALD to-day. A majority of the direc-
tors, shocked at the recent disclosures of the
unscrupulous acts of their associates, and
alarmed at the responsibility attaching to
themselves as members of the board, at-
tended a meeting called by Vice Presi-
dent Archer, at the company's offices, in the
Grand Opera House building, yesterday, and
after receiving and accepting the resignations
of several of their body, one after another,
filled the vacancies with citizens of character
and worth, embracing the names of General
John A. Dix, General George B. McClellan,
General H. L. Lanning, Colonel Henry G.
Stebbins, S. L. M. Barlow, W. R. Travers,
Charles Day and A. S. Diven. Of the old
directors Vice President O. H. P. Archer,
who led the revolutionary forces, Homer Ram-
sden, George C. Hall, Justin D. White and M.
H. Simons remained in the new board, which
organized by electing General Dix President,
in place of Jay Gould.

During these proceedings a strong police
force was mustered in the halls and cor-
ridors, and a file of men was
marched into the presence of the board and
requested by the legal adviser of Gould to
clear the room. The sergeant in charge of the
citizens with whom he had to deal, hesitated
to obey. The Superintendent of the force
soon afterwards appeared on the scene, and,
recognizing the authority of the new board,
placed his men under their instructions. After
the adjournment an exciting incident
occurred through the arrival of the United
States Marshal and his posse, who forced
open the door of an apartment held by Gould
and served him with a legal process on behalf
of the stockholders of the road. The deposed
and discomfited ex-President then fled from
the principal offices to another part of the
building; the General Superintendent and
Auditor acknowledged in writing the authority
of General Dix; the subordinate em-
ployees, recognizing in discretion the
better part of valor, forsook the fortunes of
the fallen Ring; the books, vouchers, receipts
and papers of the corporation, together with
the treasury, were placed at the disposal of
the new régime, and the revolution was com-
plete. No coup d'Etat has resulted in more
entire success since the night of the famous 2d
of December, when Paris suddenly found itself
in a state of siege, with the Assembly dis-
solved by decree, nearly two hundred of the
representatives under arrest and the leaders
transferred from their beds to prison cells.

Now that the annihilation of the Erie Ring
is complete, it is curious to see how little real
strength there was in a power that has con-
trolled our Courts, owned our Legislatures,
and for some years set law and justice at de-
fiance. When the blow fell upon the men who
have been regarded as giants in strategy and
boldness they dwindled instantly into the
dimension of pigmies. After their abandon-
ment of the contest it was a singular sight to
survey the scene of their former triumphs and
glories; to see the officers of the law, who had
so often done their bidding now holding their
own magnificent building against them; to find
a score of honest, reputable citizens, in
quiet possession of the rooms where the
staid aspect of business has been made to yield
to the most sumptuous luxury and display;
where the gaudy busts of men bloated with
vice stare from the desks, and portraits that
should grace the Mulberry street albums
adorn the walls.

But something further yet remains to be
done. It is not probable that Gould will
refrain from attempts to recover his lost
power. It is said that some of the acts of
the board at yesterday's meeting are not
strictly regular; but this is mere folly. The
acts of Gould have been from the first illegal,
and at the moment of his overthrow he was in
unjust possession of other men's property.
Yet the ex-President will doubtless endeavor to
obtain orders and injunctions from the Courts
under cover of which he may hope to again
lay his claws upon the revenues of the
Erie road. The Judges who have hereto-
fore stood his friends will hesitate
before they aid him in his present
dilemma. This is not the time when
they can afford to use the power of the
Courts in behalf of such a man. They have
now their own safety to regard, and while no
citizen should be shut out from his legal
rights a Judge will be a bold or a desperate
man who does not so carefully guard any
process he may issue in favor of Jay Gould
as to prevent him from summarily resuming
power in the Erie direction. He should be
required to clearly establish his right to any
remedy he may seek by proceedings in the
Courts, and should not be suffered to disturb
the possession of the present directors.

The duty of the Legislature is clear. A
law should be immediately passed, without a

day's unnecessary delay, confirming and
legalizing every act of the board of directors
yesterday, and establishing the new board in
power beyond a peradventure. This is due
to the character of the Legislature and to the
stockholders of the Erie road, who have
already suffered enough loss and injury,
and should be protected against litigation.
The bill already before the Senate
should also be passed, notwithstanding the
change in the Erie direction. The present
directors are anxious for its enactment in
order that a fair expression of the wishes of
the stockholders may be had in an honest
election. But yesterday's good work must be
at once confirmed and secured. The fight is
one of honor against dishonor—of integrity
against unscrupulousness—of honest men
against plunderers. The Legislature can
now hope for no further favors, pecu-
niary or political, from Jay Gould. He
will soon be ranked among the members
of the Tammany Ring, many of whom
have left their country for their country-
men's good. The possession of the books and
papers of the company will enable the new
board to trace every dollar of the stockholders'
money that has been misappropriated, and it
will be singular if something more than a civil
suit does not follow the discoveries they will
make. There are "law expenses" to be
accounted for covering seasons when the
State Legislature was in session, and
amounting to hundreds of thousands of dol-
lars. The twenty millions derived from the
new issue of stock has to be traced to its des-
tination, and other work has to be done by the
new board which will not be evaded or
eluded by its members. The present Legis-
lature will do wisely if they stop litigation and
free the present directors from embarrass-
ment and obstruction in the labor they have
undertaken.

The news of the overthrow of the Erie
Ring will be received everywhere with satis-
faction. It will restore our credit abroad and
our self-respect at home. The verdict of the
people at the last election was rendered as
emphatically against Erie as against Tam-
many rascality, and the destruction of the
one without the annihilation of the other
would have left the work of reform incom-
plete. Now let the Legislature of the State
secure to the people the fruits of yesterday's
victory by prompt legislation, and let our
judges refuse to again make a mockery of
justice by arming dishonest men with the
weapons of the law to enable them to resume
their lawless acts. A few days will dis-
close a history of profligacy and
crime that will astonish even those who
have properly appreciated the character of
the men forming the Erie Ring. The books
are in possession of the new board, and the
attempt made last night by Gould or his
employees to abstract them from the safe
shows the desperate straits to which the con-
spirators are driven. An effort to aid them,
either at the State capital or in the courts,
would only involve others in a common
destruction. Let those who would escape
such a fate be warned in time.

The New Hampshire Election.

Great day, this, in New Hampshire; for it
is the day of her annual election, and this
election is the first gun of the Presidential
campaign. Parties are strangely mixed in
this fight in being strangely divided; and be-
tween the two main parties the State is close,
and the clerk of the weather may wield the
balance of power. A fair day helps the
Republicans, but a rainy day tells to the ad-
vantage of the Democrats. The Republicans, like
chickens, are fair weather birds; the Demo-
crats, like ducks, are happiest in a soaking
rain. The philosophy of this distinction is
very interesting; but we have no room for it
to-day. The Republicans have a man named
Straw as their candidate for Governor, and
the Democrats say that he is only a man of
straw; but we shall see. He has to fight the
Democrats, the labor reformers, the temper-
ance party, and the liberal, reform, anti-Grant
or "soberhead" Republicans, and, among them
all, they will keep him busy from the rising of
the sun to the going down thereof. We expect
to give the actual general results of the elec-
tion to-morrow, and so, for the present, we
drop the subject, with the single remark that
this election will probably determine the ques-
tion whether the Democrats, in the Presi-
dential fight, shall go over to the anti-Grant Re-
publicans, or vice versa. We await the an-
swer from New Hampshire.

Our Shipping Interests—A Good Movement.

A report comes from Washington that the
Sub-Committee on Commerce of the Senate,
after a full discussion on the question of
American shipping, has decided to recom-
mend the admission of foreign built vessels
of not less than a thousand tons, when pur-
chased or owned by our citizens, to American
registration. The sub-committee proposes
also, it is said, to recommend giving permis-
sion to re-register American-built vessels that
have been transferred to foreigners, if pur-
chased again by American citizens within two
years; also to admit free of duty materials
for the construction of steamships, as well
as ship supplies, and coal to be
withdrawn from bond duty free. It is
proposed, too, to impose a tonnage
on foreign shipping. This latter proposition
may be questionable; but no one ought to
object to free trade in ships or to the registra-
tion again of vessels that were constructed in
this country and which were transferred to
foreigners during the war. The admission of
shipbuilding materials and supplies duty free
would at the same time stimulate the con-
struction of vessels at home. The important
consideration is to restore our tonnage; for
that is national in its bearing and must in the
end prove advantageous to all interests.

There will be opposition, probably, to this
measure from certain short-sighted protection-
ists and local interests; but this should be
ignored in view of the great national object
of restoring American shipping. The Committee
on Commerce ought to report a bill at once in
accordance with the reported views of the
sub-committee, and Congress should lose no
time in acting favorably upon it.

Violent Scene in the French Assembly—
Parliamentary Tumult, with the Prince
of Wales Present.

The session of the French Legislative
Assembly at Versailles yesterday was made
the occasion of a violent scene of tumult, the
excitement being prevailed among the mem-
bers being, apparently, for the time more
intense than any which has preceded it during
the parliamentary debates of the modern
republic of France. A motion was made for
the censure and legal prosecution of two of the
Deputies under an indictment charging them
with having libelled the representative body.
This was met by an amendment which
declared that the Assembly should pass to the
consideration of the order of the day. The
promovants of the motion met this by
demonstrations of noisy agitation. The reply
was, according to the same tact, conducted in
a similar strain and with like emphasis. The
motion to lay on the table was carried. A
member of the Right characterized the decision
as not being "an amnesty of impunity, but of
disdain." The acme of confusion was reached
immediately, and men of the Right and Left
handled each other "without gloves" almost
as fiercely, and not near so completely within
the rule of "corner" and "sponge" as have
the respective champions of England and
America in the fist arena. It was a pro-
tracted fight—one painful to witness; for the
repeated blows on the cheek of the brother
which were there inflicted by these represen-
tatives of France were in reality so many
assaults, personal and political, on the cause
of constituted self-government in Europe and
against that of enfranchised democracy in the
land of Danton, and on a soil which is mois-
tened with the blood of self-sacrificing mar-
tyrs to the cause of liberty. The
accused Deputies refused to accept of a
House pardon conveyed under cover
of a legislative technicality. Their effort for
an exhibition of honest disinterestedness was,
seemingly, not understood by their fellows, or
if understood it was disregarded. They were
driven to their seats by the utterance of a
storm of groans. M. Jules Favre endeavored
to speak. His voice was inaudible amid the
clamor. The Prince of Wales happened to
visit the Assembly Hall at the commencement
of the debate and witnessed the entire pro-
ceedings to the close. France is evidently
fevered, exacerbated, and restless for a
change. The French people are in a dilemma,
political and national. They have voluntarily
pledged themselves to the cause of radical
democracy and proclaimed their
capacity for conducting the cere-
monial of the consecration of an
era of popular and cheap government in the
Old World. They have built the altar, lighted
the tapers, robed the assistants and slain the
victims—a holocaust—but they still want the
high priest and the incense. The temple is
open, the congregation aspirant, but not fer-
vent and devoted. This state of national
enthusiasm is not likely to endure. The
incarnation of the principle of freedom must
be completed. The question is, Who will
accomplish the work? It may be that the
Prince of Wales has already formed an
opinion on the subject. His Royal Highness
may even go so far as to point to the pages
of English history which are black with regard
to Oliver Cromwell, but connect over the
chaos which was made in the constitution
between the moment of the decapitation of a
king and the period of royal restoration under
General Monk.

The Custom House—Abolition of the Gen-
eral Order Monopoly.

The Custom House order issued by Collector
Arthur and published in yesterday's HERALD
inaugurates an important reform in the gen-
eral order business. The monopoly of Leet
and Stocking is abolished and a new system
of general order stores takes its place. The
city of New York is divided into nine dis-
tricts, in each of which a bonded warehouse
or a set of warehouses is designated for the re-
ception of unclaimed goods brought into port.
There are four of these districts on the North
River side and five on the East River side, as
well as five for Brooklyn; and separate depots
are designated for the storage of petroleum
and other dangerous combustibles, and for
marble. Steamship companies are authorized
from the list designated to select their own
warehouses, but no company can select a
warehouse in which it has a proprietary in-
terest.

This is an immense improvement for the
benefit of our merchants upon the two gen-
eral order stores of Leet and Stocking, with
their harassing delays and excessive charges
for cartage, &c. Nor is this all, for with
these largely increased facilities for the storage
of unclaimed goods a new scale of warehouse
charges will go into effect on Monday next,
the scale being that agreed upon by a joint
committee of the Chamber of Commerce, the
Custom House and the warehousemen. Fur-
thermore, "the Collector invites written com-
plaints of any alleged overcharges or undue
delays on the part of any of the proprietors of
the warehouses for unclaimed goods," which
is an excellent provision for the protection of
the merchant.

This is General Grant's work, and here we
have another of the many examples he has
given us of his fixed purpose and policy of
retrenching expenses and correcting abuses
whenever and wherever extravagance and
abuses are shown to exist. When he went
into the White House he had everything to
learn of the machinery of the government in
its various departments and of the manifold
abuses and corruptions which had crept into
almost every department. But he has been
an apt scholar, and has learned much and
done much in the great work of retrenchment
and reform; and it is in this practical knowl-
edge of public affairs gained, and in the good
use to which General Grant applies it, that
we find his strongest recommendations for
another term.

A FLOORED JAY—Gould.

The Death of Mazzini.

A cable despatch from Paris, published this
morning, gives us to understand that in that
city yesterday a telegram was received from
Pisa announcing the death of Joseph Mazzini.
This death will produce very different effects
on different minds. There are those who will
grieve for the taking away before his work
was done of a great national patriot and true
friend as well as active helper of the human
family in its broadest sense. There are others
who will not be slow to say the world has
been happily rid of a pest, of a man whose
chief business it was, under the sacred shadow
and in the holy name of liberty, to keep the
world, or as much of it as was possible, in hot
water. It is probable that one party and the
other misestimated the man; and for our part
we feel satisfied that when the life and the
work of Mazzini are fairly estimated it will be
found that he was neither so great as his
friends maintained nor so bad as his enemies
believed. In either case the arch-agitator of
the last thirty years, if the cable speaks truth,
is no more, and his name and fame are left to
the charge of posterity.

In another place in these columns will be
found a full and fairly exhaustive sketch of the
man and his life work. To this sketch we
recommend the reader. Here we wish only
to call attention to a few of the more im-
portant points in his life and note our opinion
of the same. Mazzini was born in the year 1808,
the same year in which was born Louis Napo-
leon Bonaparte, the man whom he regarded
during the best part of his life as his natural
enemy. It is not impossible that it was some
satisfaction to Mazzini on his deathbed to
know that the man who killed the Roman re-
public and afterwards killed that of France
was an exile in England, and that his chances
of again sitting on the throne of France were
hourly diminishing. Mazzini was born and
educated in Genoa, which in 1815, on the oc-
casion of the downfall of Napoleon, was an-
nexed to the Sardinian States. In the year
1830, when the first vigorous reaction took
place against the Vienna treaties, and when
France for the second time shook off the two-
fold burden of legitimacy and divine right,
Mazzini, then little over twenty years of age,
had become an active agitator for Italian lib-
erty and independence. The French Revolu-
tion inspired him and his friends with hope;
but he soon found it necessary to retire
from Italy, and so in the year 1831 we find
him at Marseilles editing a paper called
"Young Italy," and recognized as a power
among the numerous refugees who then lived
in that city. By this time he had tried and
abandoned the Carbonari; and he was suc-
cessful in forming a new organization, to which
was given the same name which had been
given to the paper. The fundamental idea of
this association was that "the freedom of Italy,
both from domestic and from foreign tyranny,
could only be attained by a union of all the
separate States into one nation—Romans,
Piedmontese, Tuscans, Neapolitans, Lom-
bards, Venetians and the rest—all merging
their separate interests in the one common
name of Italians, and under this name forming
a single powerful European nation." Mazzini's
preference was for a republic; but it was part
of the creed of "Young Italy" that the form
of government should be determined by
events. Such a union as "Young Italy"
sighed and was not unwilling to fight for Maz-
zini lived to see; but, strange to say, Italy
united he liked as little as Italy torn into
shreds and patches.

During the interval between 1830 and 1848,
the second period of convulsion since 1815,
Mazzini was not idle, but the events of 1848-9
brought him his opportunity. After the
battle of Custoza (July 24, 1848), which
left Lombardy as before, under the heel of
Austria, we find Mazzini wandering about as
a volunteer with Garibaldi. Soon, however,
took place in Rome events which brought him
prominently to the surface. The Pope had
fled to Gaeta; Rome was declared a republic,
and on the 30th of March Mazzini—who had
previously and in his absence been elected to
the Assembly—and Saffi and Urbinelli were
appointed a triumvirate and charged with full
powers for the defence of the republic against
the coalition which the Pope at Gaeta was
forming against it. The opposition came from
France, whence it was least to be expected.
Louis Napoleon had become President of the
French republic, and General Oudinot, at the
head of a powerful expedition, landed at Civita
Vecchia on the 24th of April, 1849. For two
months the garrison of Rome resisted the
power of France with great gallantry and with
a heroism which as much astonished Europe
as it recalled the memory of better times; and
it has never been denied that of this defence
Mazzini was the soul. It is not impossible but
that for the interference of France, which was
as uncalled for as it was unjust, and which
will ever remain a dark spot on the memory of
Louis Napoleon, Italy might have been a
united and independent republic as far back as
1850. As the fates would have it, however,
the republic fell, Mazzini left, and the Pope
returned.

After the fall of Rome Mazzini found a
home in England, where, with the exception
of certain brief visits he made to the Con-
tinent, he continuously resided. In the British
capital he made many friends, some of whom
stood by him in shade and in sunshine alike.
His attempt to revolutionize Naples in 1857,
which proved abortive, is not forgotten. Most
of our readers remember the Orsini conspiracy
in 1858. One of the conspirators when under
trial declared that Mazzini supplied him with
money and bombs. His connection with this
affair has never been satisfactorily explained;
but that he was in some way implicated was
at the time so generally believed that Mr.
Stansfeld, then Secretary of the Admiralty
and a fast friend of Mazzini, found it
necessary to resign his position in the govern-
ment.

It is notorious, as we have said before, that
Mazzini was a cold observer of the events
which at last gave Italy unity, and which bore
Victor Emmanuel to supreme power in the
State. According to the programme of
"Young Italy," Italy arrived at unity and in-
dependence; but Mazzini was not satisfied.
United Italy was not a public; therefore he
stood aloof. To the young kingdom he gave
no help; he lent no encouragement. Even
the crowning of the Italian edifice by the
destruction of the temporal power and the oc-
cupation of Rome as the capital city seemed to
all him of no greater value than with the. From

many of his old friends throughout the Italian
States he had long been estranged, and from
Garibaldi, once the man of his right hand, he
was hopelessly alienated. Mazzini's great
fault was that he could not accept success
unless it came precisely in the way he wished
it. An Italian republic, with Mazzini at its
head, and the ex-Triumvir would not have
died as some think he has died, a conspirator
against his country. Mazzini's published
works testify of more than ordinary ability;
but ability cannot be conceded to him as a
ruler of men. He was a dreamer, not an
actor. History may not refuse to admit that
Joseph Mazzini was good and great, and that
he did the cause of liberty some service, but
it will find it necessary to state that he lived
an impracticable and died a vain and disap-
pointed man.

The Rapid Transit Which New York Wants.

The Broadway Pneumatic Tunnel job is still
hanging fire before the Legislature at Albany.
Let us say from the outset that our objection
to this scheme, apart from the corruption
which it entails in the irresponsible distribu-
tion of millions of dollars among the interested
parties, is its destructiveness to the property
along the great artery of our city. There is
no other great city in the world which would
tolerate for an hour such an interruption to
the business of the community as this would
threaten to hang around New York for years.
The impracticability of ever pushing the un-
dertaking (the tunnel) to a completion is
doubtless one of the reasons why the "com-
pany" would secretly wish to push the bill
through, in order that, while dazzling the eyes
of moonshine theorists in the Legislature, they
may take crafty advantage of some of its
"provisions" to achieve what has been
steadily refused hitherto—namely, the running
of a horse car line on Broadway. Now,
while steadily condemning any scheme in-
jurious to Broadway property or a deface-
ment of the street which, in all America, is
the one we must take pride in, we say that
the means of rapid transit from one end of the
island to the other are ample without inter-
fering with one or the other. The reason why
the greedy lobbies so persistently assail
Broadway is similar to that which actuated
the Tammany Ring in the Broadway widening
scheme—namely, the stupendous sums which
would change hands, giving the unscrupulous
a wider field of operations. The object is not
rapid transit of passengers, but rapid transit
of money.

The city of London possesses two lines of
urban railroads which are models of their kind,
and neither interferes or did interfere with
the great vital lines of traffic. The one—the
North London—a viaduct road built on brick
arches, with girder bridges over the thorough-
fares, makes a semicircle of the northwestern
suburbs and has its terminus in the eastern
side of the city proper. It brings daily, by a
pleasant ride, to the homes of commerce, tens
of thousands of citizens who reside in the
suburbs. The other is the Metropolitan (or
underground) Railway. This was constructed
at immense cost about ten years ago. For
some five miles of its length it runs through
a tunnel, which all the ventilating appliances
hitherto used have not entirely prevented
from being filled with noxious gases. Its
line of construction under the streets is
principally beneath the Euston road, a very
wide, outlying thoroughfare, where the con-
tinued interruption of traffic during its con-
struction was not of great moment, because
the houses along it are almost entirely private.
If, instead, it had been proposed to tunnel
Chapinade or Oxford street, we would have
heard very little of the project after the in-
dignant business men had commenced
"writing to the Times."

The topography of Manhattan Island makes
the preservation of Broadway even more a
matter of public duty. The object of rapid
transit is to reach distances; to bring the free
country air within reach of city-toiling lungs;
to give our artisans, our clerks and our small
business men cheap, healthy homes for them-
selves and families. To make this plan work
the fares on such a line must be cheap. While
your tunnel swindle would be blasting its one-
horse way up town at enormous cost, two viaduct
railways could be constructed—one on the
west, the other on the east side of the
island—from the Battery to the Harlem River,
at less than the price it would take to build a
tunnel half the way. We tell the tunnellers
and their underground and overground workers
at Albany to spare their efforts. The fate of
the Broadway widening plotters awaits all
who make Broadway the objective point of
their subterranean plans. We want rapid
transit with daylight and free air. If some-
thing practicable is to be tested, let plans be
put forward for two such viaduct lines as here
proposed, or one to start with, and then we
may imagine that "projectors" are in earnest.

Congress Yesterday—Secretary Robeson's
Administration To Be Investigated.

The House of Representatives yesterday went
through its usual Monday performance in the
way of introducing bills for reference, and of
voting to suspend the rules on all sorts of
propositions. The only bill of public interest
that was introduced under the call of States
was one for a postal telegraph. It was but a
modification, however, of a like bill pending
in the Senate, and which is only to abolish the
existing telegraph monopolies by creating an-
other one to absorb all the others for the ben-
efit of Mr. Hubbard and his associates.

The newspapers that have been maligning
the Secretary of the Navy, and charging all
sorts of corrupt practices against him in the
administration of his department, will now
have an opportunity of proving their state-
ments or confessing that they were "Abel-
tious and untrue, for the House yesterday, on
motion of Mr. Blair, of Michigan, and with
the expressed desire of Secretary Robeson,
appointed a select committee of five to inves-
tigate the matter.

Mr. Brooks' Mexican protectorate propo-
sition failed to get the necessary support of a
two-thirds majority, and the like fate befell
a bill of Mr. Butler's to hasten the return to
specie payments by directing the receipt of
one-third portion of customs duties in United
States Treasury notes after the 1st of April
next.

The Senate, after listening to a speech from
Mr. Trumbull on civil service reform, went to
work at the Legislative Appropriation bill.